Excitations: Energy Studies in the Arts & Humanities

The 2016 SIAH selects & supports twenty UW undergraduates (Seattle, Bothell, & Tacoma) to engage in intensive research projects under the guidance of four interdisciplinary instructors on the UW Seattle campus.

Students selected to participate:

- engage in intensive scholarly work
- are named Mary Gates Scholars and receive a $4,500 scholarship
- earn 12 academic credits over terms A & B of Summer Quarter (are eligible to receive financial aid if applicable); &
- present their final projects in the 2016 Summer Institute Symposium

This year’s institute provides students an opportunity to undertake original research on the role of energy in the arts and humanities. Energy touches all aspects of our lives. Because of this, the concept of energy has been important in fields as diverse as science, philosophy, art, music, history, politics, and cultural theory. Students will consider how energy is sensed or visualized. They will investigate how energy helps form natural rhythms and what these rhythms mean. They will explore how the use of technology has changed how researchers think about or manipulate energy. And they will consider how thinking in terms of energy can change how they choose to live in the world.

Students will attend lectures, seminars, small group critique, workshops, and tutorial sessions. Students will read and discuss theoretical readings and engage in digital and physical forms of making, such as 3d printing, photograms, sound editing, video editing, physical computing, and Photoshop. Students will then complete a significant project that reflects their unique insights into the role of energy in the arts and humanities. The forms for these projects may include scholarly research, performances in music / sound / drama, visual artworks / installations, and creative writing. The institute will culminate in a “works in progress exhibition” as well as a daylong seminar where students will present or perform their research.

2016 Teaching Team:

Rebecca Cummins, Professor, Photomedia, School of Art, rcummins@uw.edu
Tyler Fox, Studio Dir. & Lecturer, Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences, UW Bothell, foxt@uw.edu
Phillip Thurtle, Associate Professor, Comparative History of Ideas, thurtle@uw.edu
Joel Ong, PhD Student, Digital Arts & Experimental Media, joelong@uw.edu

Application Due: Monday, March 28

See: uw.edu/undergradresearch/summer/siah/

For more information, contact the Undergraduate Research Program:

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The Summer Institute in the Arts & Humanities is sponsored by Undergraduate Academic Affairs, the Simpson Center for the Humanities, the Office of Research, Summer Quarter, the Undergraduate Research Program, and the Mary Gates Endowment for Students.